

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02267 091552Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05
IGA-02 /079 W

-----091554Z 097195 /43

R 091435Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5174
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOFORN KINGSTON 2267

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, JM, UK, CA, NL, US
SUBJECT: DUTCH, BRITISH AND CANADIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA

1. EVENING MAY 5 BRITISH AND CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONERS AND
DUTCH AMBASSADOR IN SEPARATE BRIEF CONVERSATIONS WITH CHARGE
OFFERED FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS RE THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS'
ATTITUDES TOWARD ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA.

2. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER DRINKALL, REFERRING TO CONVERSA-
TION EARLIER IN THE WEEK WITH DEPT. ASST. SECRETARY LUERS AND
CHARGE (KINGSTON 2153), REAFFIRMED HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT
BRITISH GOVERNMENT, IF APPROACHED AT APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL,
WOULD BE FORTHCOMING WITH SOME BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE.
OPERATING ASSUMPTION HERE, ACCORDING TO DRINKALL, WAS THAT
THERE WOULD BE ACCOMMODATION BETWEEN GOP AND IMF AND
THAT THE BRITISH ASSISTANCE WOULD SUPPLEMENT AN EXPANDED
US ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. HE SAID THAT LONDON WAS PRESSING
HARD FOR DETAILS ON CURRENT US/GOJ ECONOMIC TALKS.
CHARGE PROMISED TO BRIEF HIM IN GENERAL TERMS NEXT
WEEK BUT SUGGESTED THAT BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON
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CONTACT DONOR LION (AID) AND DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY LUERS
NEXT WEEK IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A BETTER FEEL FOR WASHINGTON'S
ATTITUDES.

3. DUTCH AMBASSADOR SCHOUTEN, REFERRING TO AN EARLIER
CONVERSATION DURING WHICH HE HAD INDICATED DUTCH GOVERN-
MENT WAS INTERESTED IN PROVIDING BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

SUPPORT WININ THE FRAMEWORK OF A CONSORTIUM (KINGSTON 1854) STATED FLATLY THAT DUTCH GOVERNMENT WANTED TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSORTIUM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. CHARGE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE CONSORTIUM CONCEPT HAD VALIDITY AND THAT THERE WAS NEED FOR COOPERATION AND CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN VARIOUS DONORS. HOWEVER, US/GOJ TALKS MADE CLEAR THAT THE JAMAICAN ECONOMY CRISIS WAS SUFFICIENTLY URGENT TO ARGUE FOR IMMEDIATE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS DONORS. THE NATURE OF THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS DID NOT ALLOW TIME FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRADITIONAL CONSORTIUM. CHARGE OFFERED AS A PERSONAL VIEW THE THOUGHT THAT A MORE HIGHLY STRUCTURED MULTILATERAL APPROACH MIGHT BE POSSIBLE LATER -- IF THE JAMAICANS WOULD ACCEPT IT -- IN CONNECTION WITH LONGER TERM ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS.

4. CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER HOOPER, REFERRING TO CONVERSATION EARLIER THIS WEEK WITH DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY LUERS AND CHARGE (KINGSTON 2169) SAID THE 65 MILLION DOLLAR CANADIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LINE OF CREDIT (AGREED TO LAST DECEMBER) COULD BE USED ONLY FOR CANADIAN CAPITAL GOODS AND SPARE PARTS. HOOPER THOUGHT IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT MORE THAN A SMALL AMOUNT OF THIS MONEY WOULD BECOME AVAILABLE TO JAMAICA BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, HE ALSO BELIEVES THAT CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND OTTAWA COULD RESULT IN FURTHER BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE ALONG THE LINES OF THE 25 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN WHICH HAS JUST BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A "ROLL OVER".
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5. COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR FROM HERE THAT A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS ARE LIKELY TO BE RECEPTIVE TO ANY U.S. APPROACH DIRECTED AT SUPPORTING GOJ INITIATIVES FOR EXPANDED BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA. HOWEVER, ALL OF THESE POSITIVE NOISES ALSO APPEAR TO ASSUME A GOJ/IMF AGREEMENT AND ESPANDED U.S. ASSISTANCE.
DORRANCE

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Message Attributes

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